

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1400035204
HO-3
District #4

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME					
COMMON: Pleasant Valley					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Lost by Neglect					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER: 13893 Forsythe Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Sykesville					
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Howard		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____					
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME: K. L. Wheeler					
STREET AND NUMBER: 13893 Forsythe Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Sykesville			STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Hall of Records					
STREET AND NUMBER: Howard County Courthouse					
CITY OR TOWN: Ellicott City			STATE: Maryland		21043
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
Tax Map #9 671/618 24.00 A p. 92					
TITLE OF SURVEY: Howard County Historic Sites Inventory					
DATE OF SURVEY: 1976 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust					
STREET AND NUMBER: 21 State Circle					
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis			STATE: Maryland		21401

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Formerly a part of the land grant "Lost by Neglect" and now called Pleasant Valley. This structure has two components. The 2 story stone cottage built perhaps as early as 1754, and the larger 2½ story west wing with its entrance and portico facing north completed by 1849 when it is described in an insurance policy issued to Henry Forsythe on "Pleasant Valley".

Paneling and woodwork in the newer wing are said to have been made from chestnut trees cut from the surrounding fields and the stones from which this section of the house is built were gathered from the place.

The oldest part of the house, the east wing is a four bay, two story structure with entrance facing south. The north elevation contains two double-hung windows on each story with flat sills. All the windows of the house are new and have aluminum siding frames and six-over-six lites. A simple wooden cornice runs along the gable roof line. The east elevation contains no windows but a chimney at the apex of the gable. The south elevation contains a deep set rectangular door with nine lites on the right side, a double hung window on the west side of the original kitchen door with six-over-six lites. A rectangular horizontal window with 28 lites lies between the aforesaid window to the east and a rectangular wooden door with nine lites to the west. Two double hung windows with six-over-six lites are set above each door on the second floor.

By 1849 the west two story three bay wing was added to the original structure. The north elevation contains the original rectangular door located at the west corner and surmounted by a three lite transom. The fenestration of the building is proportional. All windows are double-hung with six-over-six lites. A brick landing with three brick steps leading to a brick stoop lead to the door.

The west elevation contains a small rectangular double-hung window with six-over-six lites in the apex of the west ½ story wall.

The south elevation contains two large rectangular double-hung windows with six-over-six lites on the first floor and a one story, one bay square appendage leading from the southwest corner door with a double-hung window with six-over-six lites on the west and east sides of the appendage. Four brick steps lead to a rectangular doorway on the south. An additional chimney is located on the east side of the addition.

A concrete patio extends 3 bays to the southeast corner with the original well located on the southeast corner.

An old 2½ story barn, 20x15 and north of the house has a new appendage 10 feet addition north of the original barn.

A small frame pump house with gable roof and old iron hinges on the rectangular door is located about 60' due south of the barn.

Sites of a previous corn crib and large barn 3 times the size of the present barn and put together with wooden pegs is located north of the property not far from Forsythe Road. A green house is located on the site of a stone foundation which previously supported a wooden building for either curing meat or storing tools.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1754 - 1849

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The history of ownership dates back to a land grant "Lost by Neglect", patented in 1775 by Mordecai Selby, Sr. This was a re-survey of the 103 acres he bought in 1754 and chose to call "Selby's Inheritance". The change of name tells a story and has significance. The re-survey, dated 1775, reveals a large "deficiency" of acreage which may explain the new title "Lost by Neglect".

In 1742 a 100 acre tract belonging to Adam Shipley under the name "Good Neighborhood" is found. It is conceivable that the small stone wing of the former Forsythe home could conceivably have been the homestead of this original settler.

The 1754 deed from Shipley to Selby conveys 103 acres of land -- "together with all rights, members, appurtenances, houses, edifices, buildings, gardens, orchards, woods, underwoods, timber and timber trees, easements, profits, commodities, hereditaments, appurtenances, whatsoever. . ." for 15 pounds and nine shillings. (\$37.50 approx.)

This simple straight forward house with its large fireplace taking up the east wall and spanning the 18th and 19th centuries gives us an example of early Maryland vernacular architecture.

"Pleasant Valley's" association with the Dorsey's and the Forsythes add further significance in an historical sense to this property. In 1801 John Dorsey, Jr. (whose grandfather was "Patuxent John" Dorsey of "Dorsey Hall", whose grandfather was Honorable John Dorsey of "Troy") bought lands from three brothers, Mordecai, Ely and William Selby. This land passed to Mary Dorsey Forsythe and her brother Upton Dorsey.

The name of the house was changed from "Lost by Neglect" to "Pleasant Valley". Here Mary and Henry Forsythe had three sons and three daughters. Their youngest son, William Henry, was deeded "Pleasant Valley" in 1858 and lived here until 1888 when he moved to adjoining "Oakland". His son, Honorable William Henry Forsythe, who became Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial District was born at "Pleasant Valley" and spent his childhood there.

Both "Pleasant Valley" and "Oakland" passed down to Judge Forsythe. His daughter, Mrs Pope Barrow holds "Oakland" today.

Mr. & Mrs. K. L. Wheeler, the present owners of "Pleasant Valley" have made this charming stone house covered with plaster, a sunny well maintained residence.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Shaw, Mrs. Clifford. "One of Howard County's Old Homes, Located near Sykesville. Sykesville Herald (January 23, 1958).

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"		
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"		
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"		
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

14.00 Acres

See Tax Map 9

671/618 Parcel 92

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		
Cleora B. Thompson, Archivist		
ORGANIZATION	DATE	
Howard County - Comprehensive Planning		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
3450 Court House Drive		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	
Ellicott City	Maryland	21043

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

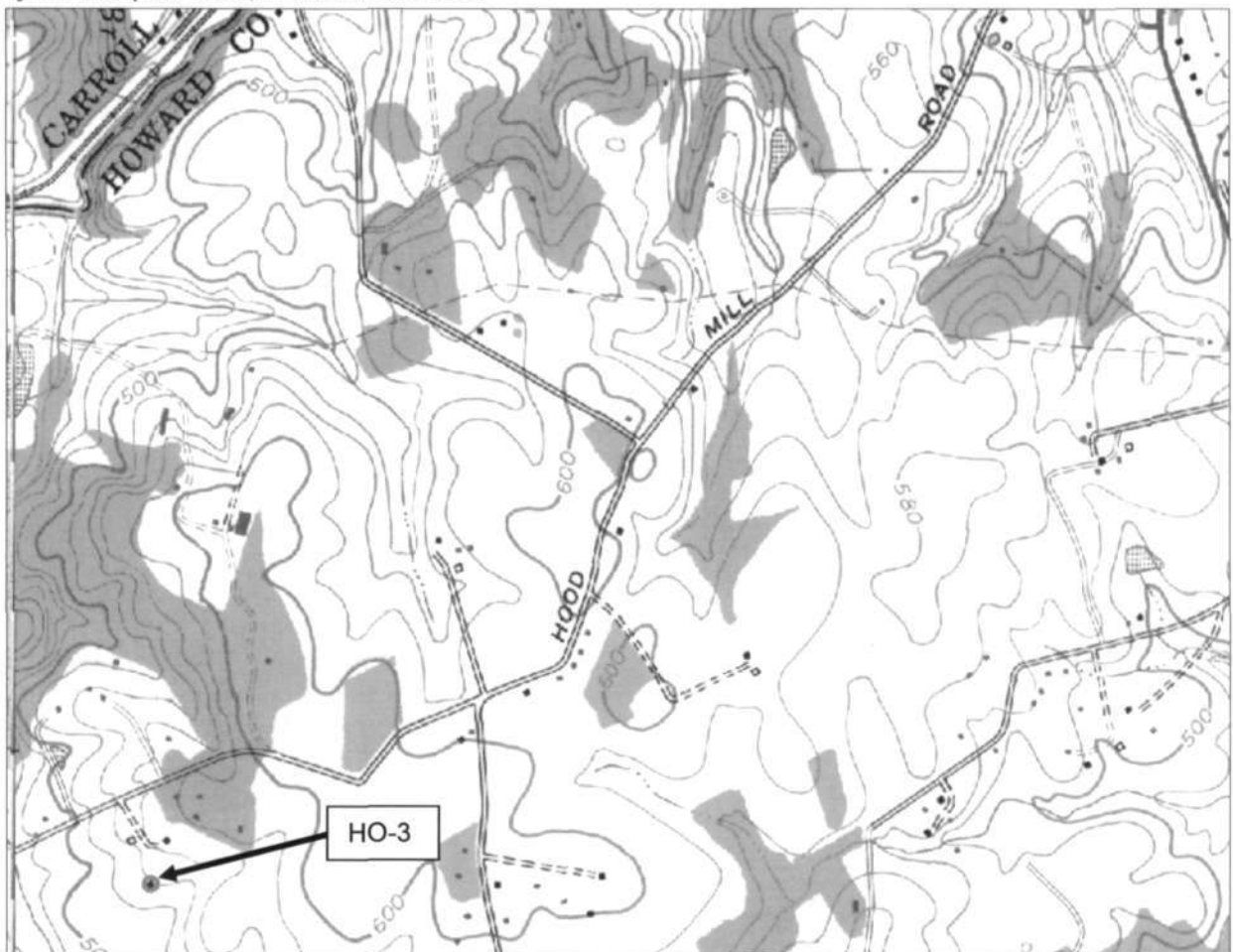
Signature _____

HO-3

Pleasant Valley (Lost By Neglect)

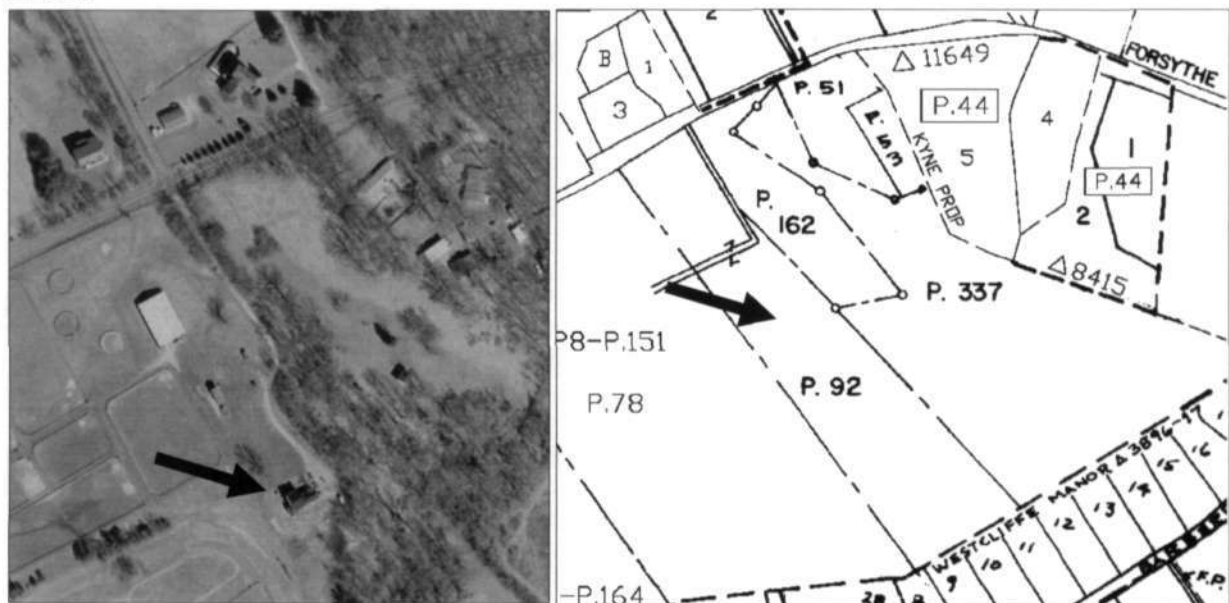
13893 Forsythe Road, Sykesville

Sykesville quad 1953, Photorevised 1979

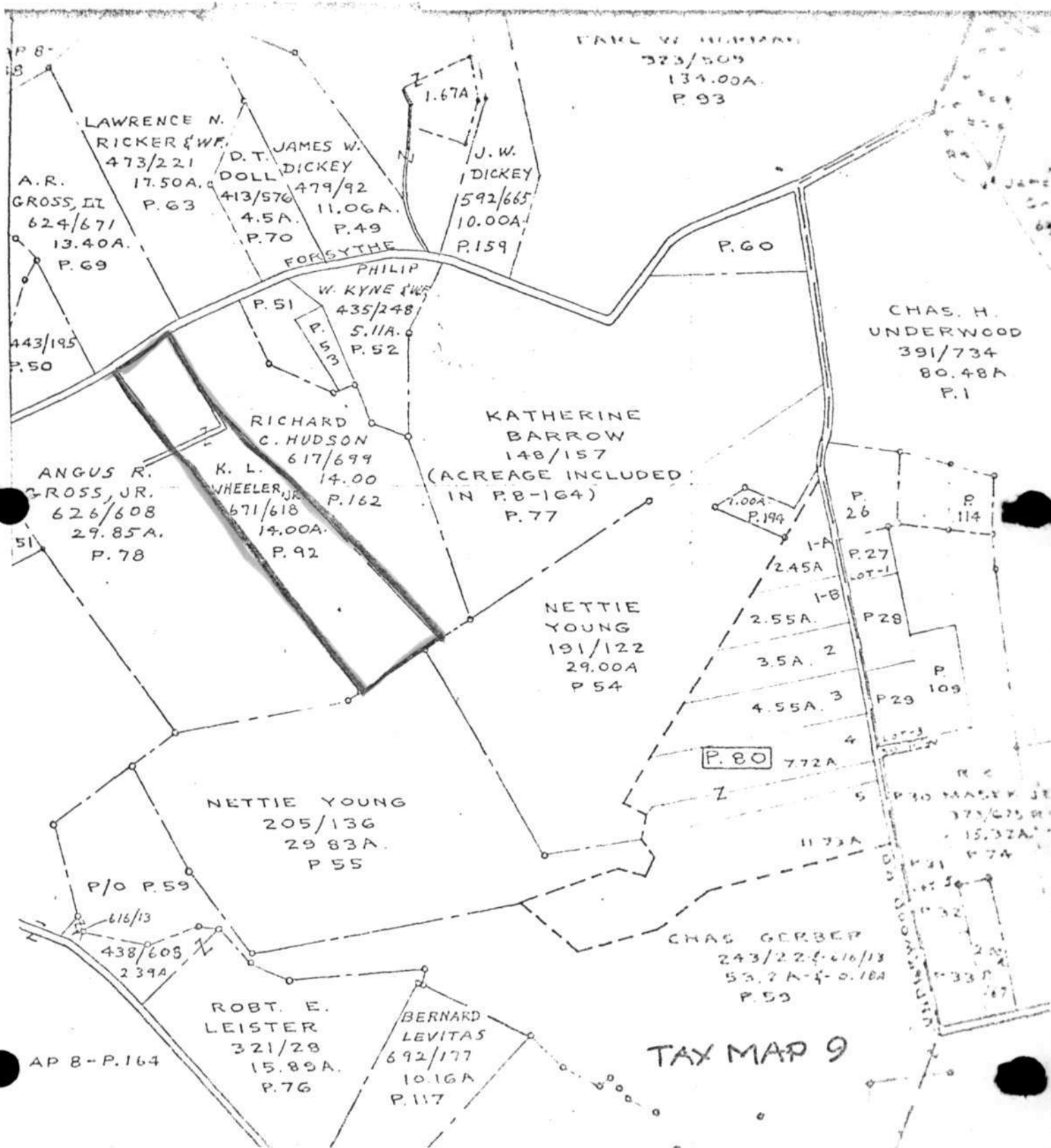


National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map, Tax Map 9, P. 92

c. 2010



No-3



TAX MAP 9



HO 3 DIST 4
PLEASANT VALLEY

MHT 4/1972
Jean S. Ewing